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GREGORY A. SEBALD MERCHANT & GOULD, PC P.O. BOX 2903 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903 MAR - 3 2004

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR TC 3600

In re application of

Justin R. Morris et al.

Application No. 10/014,914

Filed: October 22, 2001

For: VINEYARD APPARATUS, SYSTEM, AND

METHOD FOR VINEYARD MECHANIZATION

DECISION ON REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF

**ATTORNEY** 

This is a decision on the request filed on June 19, 2003, under 37 CFR 1.36 and MPEP 402.06, requesting permission to withdraw as the attorney of record in the above-identified application.

The request is **NOT APPROVED** as **MOOT**.

Under 37 CFR 1.36 an attorney may withdraw only upon application to and approval by the Commissioner. It should be noted that a withdrawal is effective when approved, not when filed. Besides giving due notice to his or her client and delivering to the client all papers and property to which the client is entitled as specified under 37 CFR 10.40, approval of such a request requires that the following conditions be met:

- A) Each attorney of record must sign the notice of withdrawal, or the notice must contain a clear indication of one attorney signing on behalf of another, because the Office does not recognize law firms;
- B) A proper reason for the withdrawal as enumerated in 37 CFR 10.40(b) or subsection (1)-(6) of 37 CFR 10.40(c) must be provided; and
- C) If withdrawal is requested in accordance with 37 CFR 10.40(c) above, there must be at least 30 days between approval of the withdrawal and the later of the expiration date of a time period for reply or the expiration date of the period which can be obtained by a petition and fee for extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a).

The request to withdraw as attorney in this application is not approved as moot because a revocation of power of attorney to Head, Johnson & Kachigian and a new power of attorney to the attorneys of Merchant & Gould, PC was submitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on October 24, 2003. The power of attorney therefore has already been withdrawn as per the Notice to that effect mailed February 18, 2004.

Kenneth J. Dorner

Special Programs Examiner
Patent Technology Center 3600

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KJD/mjz: 2/20/04

CC:

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